

1956 Rights of Way Committee Report

To the citizens of Nantucket this committee submits the following report:

We placed in the hands of the County Commissioners on May 4, 1956, the following business for their immediate attention:

At our regular meeting, held April 27, our records show the following unfinished business, which we hope will receive your immediate attention, before the start of the Summer season.

- I. Bounding of the Town's Dionis Beach property and the laying out and bounding of the road leading into the same property. We have asked for the above to be done at a number of your previous meetings.
- II. Cambridge Street, Madaket, cleaning out of brush and widening of this street between bounds.
- III. Bounding of Town's beach property at Mioxé Pond.
- IV. Setting of Public Way bounds at the following named legal ways to the beaches. Eel Point Road East, Eel Ponti [sic] Road North, way to Madaket Harbor coming out at the first creek, way off Tennessee Avenue to Madaket Ditch, K Street, Madaket, New Jersey Avenue, Pennsylvania Avenue, Delaware Street area, Coffin's Landing at Broad Creek, Narrow Creek Road, Government Way at Brant Point, Pocomo roads, (beach end, [sic] Squam Landing Road.
- V. Relocating of bounds on Massasoit Road layout brought to our attention by County Surveyor.
 1. We recommend that the entrance to Indian Avenue no longer be closed as this sets a precedent.
 2. Future trusteeship of Codfish Park, vacancies still not filled and we recommend proper action to be taken to retain present status of park lands.

We wish to bring to your attention that a fence in front of the former Chamberlain property on the north side of Easton Street is several feet outside the bounds.

On Cornish Street a hedge and sunporch take in a part of said street.

We wish to bring to your attention that the fence of Mr. Lewis Greenleaf on Hulbert Avenue is well outside of the County Road bound at one point and that you take proper action to safeguard the Town's interest in this section of said street.

Proper action be taken at James Street, as dwelling and fence on the southeasterly side are approximately 7 feet on said street.

Charles Street, approximately 13 feet wide, has chimney protruding about 2 feet into said street; Evans property. Also tennis courts are on part of Town Park land on northwesterly side of same property.

House of Mr. Harris on Center Street, Siasconset. Fence is in the street 28 inches on one end and twelve inches on the other end. (Land supposed to be leased to him.)

Roadway between Broadway and Back Streets in Siasconset has gas tanks on same.

We have brought above to your attention so that you can take proper action to safeguard the Town's interest and the Public's rights in same.

The taking of Smith's Point and part of South Beach has been completed (Shore Reservations).

The 1955 Town Meeting voted \$1,500 to investigate the legal status of roads leading to the shores taken since 1930 report by Mr. Sanguinetti and Mr. Glidden which follows:

Mr. Wesley A. Fordyce
Clerk, County Commissioners
Nantucket, Mass.

Dear Mr. Fordyce:

In accordance with vote of Article 103 of the Annual Town Meeting held February 16, 1955, the undersigned have made an examination of the records of the County Commissioners, Registry of Deeds, Town Clerk and various Land Court certificates pertaining to the legal status of rights of way to the shores of Nantucket laid out and accepted since 1930, and it is our opinion that the following streets have been so laid out and accepted: Cambridge Street, Eel Point Road, Northern Monomoy and Galen Streets, Miacomet Pond Road, Hummock Pond Road, Smith's Point Road, Sewer Bed Road, Warren's Landing, Indian Avenue, Pocomo Roads, Madaket Roads, Siasconset Streets, various roads in Surfside subdivision, Beachside Streets known as Charles, Dix, Johnson, James, Henry, Williams and John, Jefferson Avenue, Washington Street, Capaum Road, and Hick's [sic] Hollow Roads.

Respectfully submitted,
Roy E. Sanguinetti
James K. Glidden

We had expected those roads under the heading Madaket Roads, Pocomo Roads, and 'Sconset Streets, to be individually defined as the Beach Streets are.

Cement Public Way bounds marking the Public Beach at Dionis have been placed. The County Commissioners have started proceedings to layout Tristram Avenue westerly along the southerly side of Dionis beach for about 4,500 feet and then northerly to Nantucket Sound, (about 60' wide). Also three Proprietors Roads are being laid out from Eel Point Road to Tristram Avenue.

The following should be of interest to the voters, as it explains the unnecessary condemnation this committee received from some members of the Board of Selectmen, in regards to the filing of a bill in the General Court. We were both amazed and dismayed in the seemingly lack of knowledge these members displayed in the functions of this committee, as voted under article 78, 1953 and article 95, 1956, at annual Town Meeting, and the fact that the final disposition of this bill will come before the voters at a later Town Meeting.

When the strip of beach was purchased at Sachacha [sic] Pond which entails a certificate of land title and fenced, barring the public from its use; members of this committee were deluged with phone calls and letters from those persons who had enjoyed the use of this beach for years past, asking us what we could do to attain it again.

We discarded the method used in the acquisition of Smith's Point and the South Beach, namely, the taking by eminent domain, under the Beach Reservation Act, entailing a period of two years, because of the legal aspects this particular strip of beach involved, not found in the two above named cases.

We have filed a bill in the State Legislature which calls for State purchase of beach land near Sachacha Pond. It is our intention under this bill to have the State buy the land but deed it to the town for its use and jurisdiction, leaving Nantucket in sole control of it.

This Committee wishes to thank the voters of Nantucket for their confidence, shown in this committee by their vote to continue us in office for another three year term at the 1956 annual town meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

The Right [sic] of Way Committee
Chalres F. Sayle, Chairman
Walter S. Barrett
Clinto Andrews
Elwyn R. Francis Sr.